



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 4 January 1968



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DAILY BRIEF
4 JANUARY 1968

1. Vietnam

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2. Cyprus

With only 14 days remaining of the 45-day period during which the Greek "illegals" on Cyprus were to have been removed, the Turkish Government is beginning to show signs of dissatisfaction with the progress of the evacuation. Only slightly more than 3,000 Greek troops have left the island

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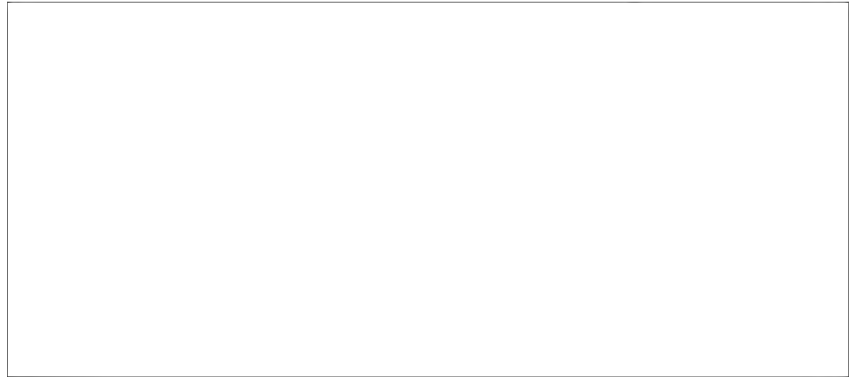
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Another point that is certain to cause concern in Ankara is the long interruption in the departures. The last evacuation was on 19 December; as of 3 January, there had been no announcement as to when the next one was scheduled.

Reports as to the number of Greek "illegals" on Cyprus before the evacuation vary widely. Several, however, estimate the figure at 15,000-18,000. Whatever the real number, the figures will be overestimated by the Turks and underplayed by the Greeks. This is likely to become the most dangerous point at issue.

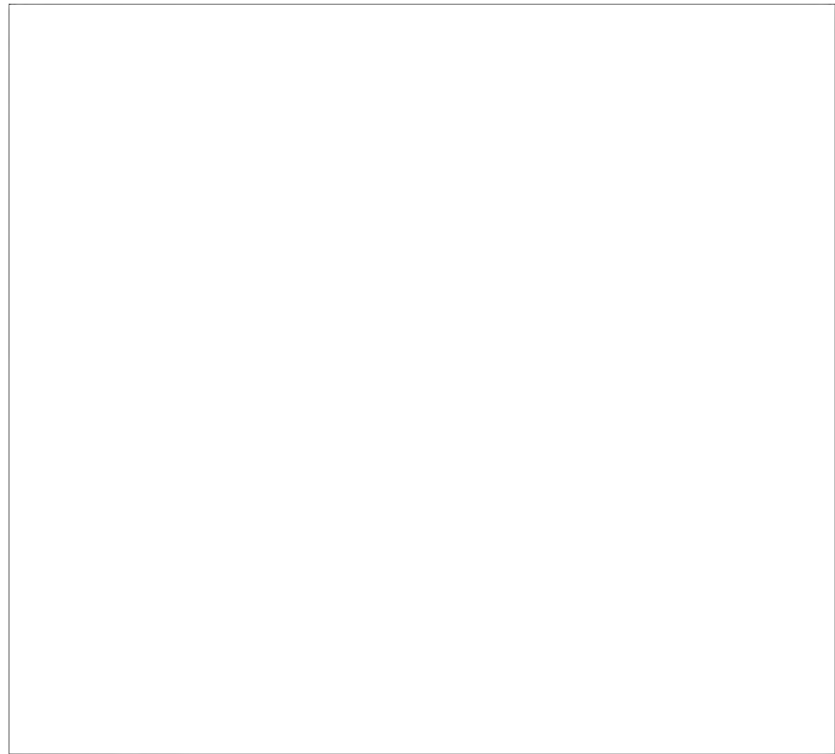
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3. France



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4. Communist China



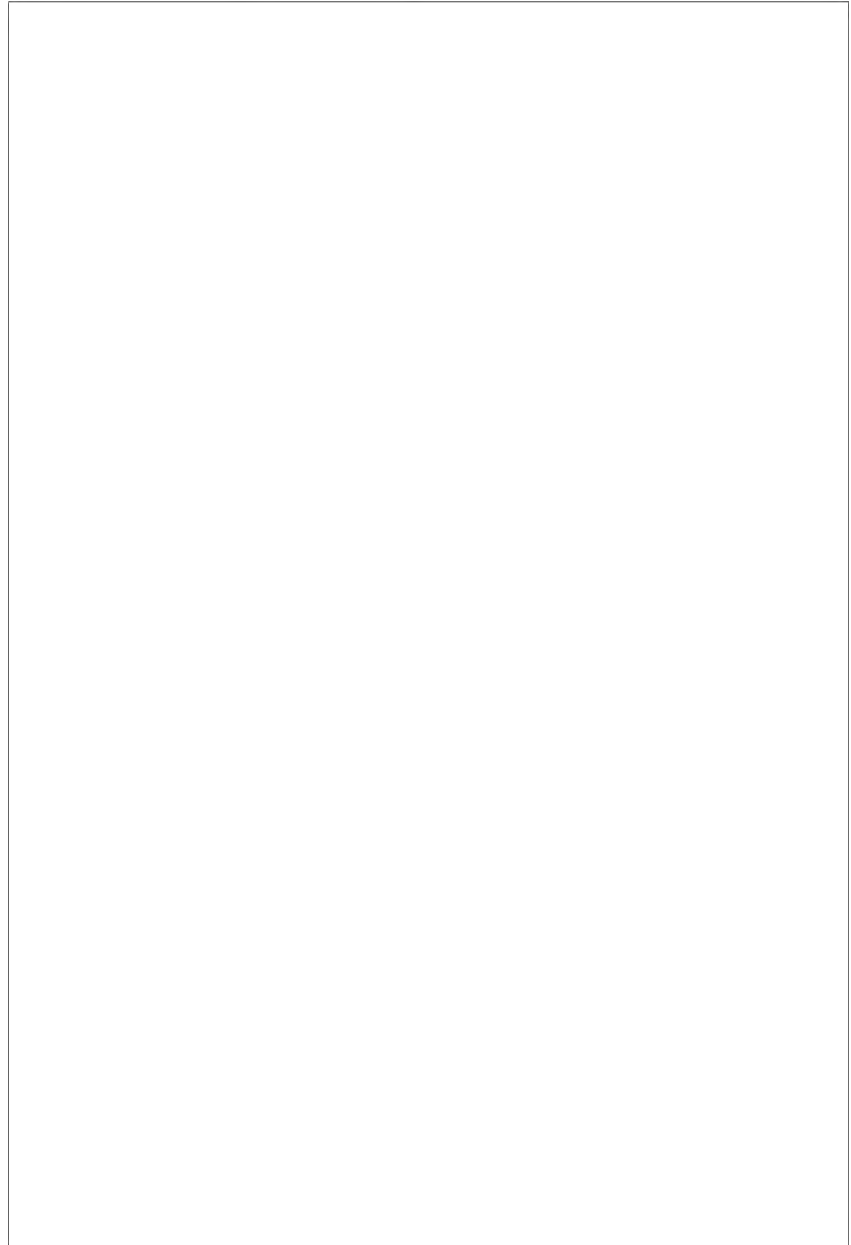
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5. Nigeria

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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam



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Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
for the President's Eyes Only

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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

More on Hanoi and Negotiations: The Communist press has begun to provide publicity support for the North Vietnamese foreign minister's statement on 30 December committing Hanoi to "talks" in exchange for a bombing cessation. On 2 January, Moscow replayed the statement without commentary in both its domestic and foreign radio broadcasts. Radio Prague has also publicized it.

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The US consul general in Hong Kong notes that Foreign Minister Trinh's 30 December statement is a flat contradiction of the Chinese Communist position as expressed in an official China News Agency article of 28 December. This article, a long and virulent one, warned against the "Johnson peace talk trick," and predicted that all US "schemes to extend the war and play peace talk tricks will be completely smashed by the Vietnamese people." The consul general feels Trinh's statement represents a restating and widening of Hanoi's policy differences with Peking over "talks." The consul general surmises that this reflects a lessening of North Vietnamese confidence in the Chinese Communists' ability to deliver on their commitments or deter further escalation.

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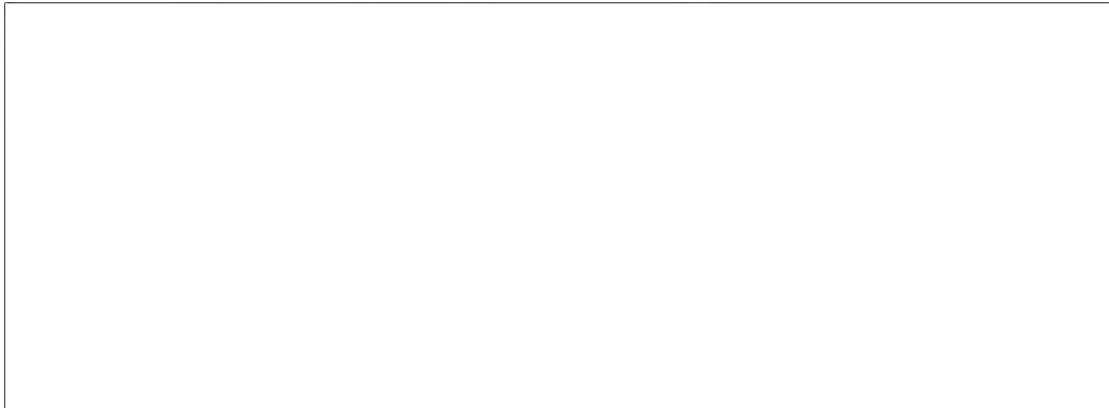
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II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL
ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

There is nothing of significance to report.

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